



LITTLE HOOVER COMMISSION

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 9, 2006**

For Additional Information Contact:

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Senator

Leslie "Teddie" Ray

James E. Rogan

Audra Strickland
Assemblymember

**Nancy Lyons
Acting Executive Director
(916) 445-2125**

NOTICE OF MEETING

On Thursday, March 23, 2006, the Little Hoover Commission will conduct a public hearing on the State's emergency preparedness. The hearing will begin at 9 a.m. in Room 437 of the State Capitol in Sacramento.

The hearing is part of the Commission's review of California's emergency preparedness, with emphasis on the State's capacity to respond to a major catastrophe when local resources are overwhelmed. The recent hurricanes on the Gulf coast, along with the expanding threat of avian flu, have highlighted the need to examine the capacity of local, state and federal officials to respond to a range of possible emergencies.

At this hearing, the Commission will focus on the recommendations of the recently released White House report on the federal response to Hurricane Katrina. The Commission will use this hearing to explore how the lessons identified in the Katrina report apply to California. A complete agenda is on the reverse.

The Commission intends to complete its review in the spring and issue findings and recommendations for reform to policy-makers.

There will be an opportunity for public comment at the end of the hearing. The Commission also encourages written comments.

The Commission also will meet for dinner on Wednesday, March 22, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. at California Fat's Restaurant, 1015 Front Street, Old Sacramento.

All public notices for meetings are on the Commission's Web site, www.lhc.ca.gov. If you need reasonable accommodation due to a disability, please contact Nancy Lyons at (916) 445-2125 or littlehoover@lhc.ca.gov by Thursday, March 16, 2006. Commission hearings can be viewed via Webcast within a week after the hearing date on the California Channel Web site, www.calchannel.com.



LITTLE HOOVER COMMISSION

AGENDA

Public Hearing on Emergency Preparedness Thursday, March 23, 2006 State Capitol, Room 437 Sacramento

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Public Hearing: 9 a.m.

Presentation – Exercising Executive-Level Decision-Making

1. Anne A. Witkowsky, Senior Fellow, Homeland Security Program, Center for Strategic and International Studies, Washington, D.C.

Panel – White House Report on Hurricane Katrina – California Applications

2. Henry Renteria, Director, Governor's Office of Emergency Services
3. Dallas Jones, Senior Public Safety Advisor, James Lee Witt Associates, LLC
4. Major General William H. Wade II, Adjutant General, California National Guard
5. Christopher A. Godley, Emergency Services Manager, Marin County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services, and Member, California Operational Area Coalition
6. Jim Wunderman, President and Chief Executive Officer, Bay Area Council

Public comment will be taken at the end of the hearing. All written testimony submitted electronically is posted on the Commission's Web site at www.lhc.ca.gov.

Business Meeting Agenda

(The Commission will consider agenda items I-VII at approximately noon. The precise time will vary depending upon the testimony of witnesses and will be determined at the discretion of the chair.)

- I. Election of Officers
- II. Business Meeting Minutes from January 26, 2006 and February 23, 2006
- III. Project Selection / Schedule
- IV. Subcommittee Reports
- V. Implementation Activity
- VI. Reports from Bureau of State Audits
- VII. The Commission will meet in closed session, pursuant to Government Code Section 11126(a)(1), to consider the selection of an executive director.